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(b) what portion of the railway revenue has in each case been utilized to augment the general revenue of the district board and what portion of it has been utilized for the further expansion of railway construction or for any other purposes?

A.—(a) The boards which own railways are –

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. Kistna. | 4. Coimbatore. |
| 2. Guntur. | 5. Salem. |
| 3. Tanjore. | 6. Tinnevelly. |

The net profits so far earned by these district boards except Tanjore are given below. In the case of Tanjore the information is not available and will be called for.

| | RS. | | RS. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Kistna ... | 35,42,956 | 4. Salem ... | 1,54,074 |
| 2. Guntur ... | 4,27,418 | 5. Tinnevelly ... | 20,891 |
| 3. Coimbatore. | 9,07,780 | | |

(b) Information is not available and will be called for.

## PRISONERS.

*Condition of Mr. P. Varadarajulu Nayudu in the Trichinopoly prison.*

28-A Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the judgment of the Subdivisional Magistrate of Usilampatti in Mr. P. Varadarajulu Nayudu's case (Calendar Case 57 of 1923);

(b) if not, whether the Government will be pleased to send for and peruse the judgment;

(c) if it is a fact that Mr. Kelu Nayar, the first-class Subdivisional Magistrate in charge of Madura subdivision, had no jurisdiction to issue the order under section 144, Cr. P.C., to restrain Mr. P. Varadarajulu Nayudu from speaking in Uttamapalaiyam which is in Usilampatti division;

(d) whether it is a fact that Mr. P. Varadarajulu Nayudu was to preside at a Political Conference at Uttamapalaiyam and that he was allowed to go from Salem to Uttamapalaiyam for the purpose;

(e) whether it is a fact that only on the previous evening the order restraining him was served on him;

(f) if it is a fact that there was really no danger of breach of the public peace at Uttamapalaiyam;

(g) if it is a fact that the Conference at Uttamapalaiyam was open only to the delegates and that admission to the Conference was strictly by tickets;

(h) whether the Government will, under the circumstances, consider his case and remit the unexpired portion of his sentence;

(i) if it is a fact that Mr. P. Varadarajulu Nayudu is being treated in Trichinopoly jail as a chronic asthmatic patient and that he is about to undergo a surgical operation; and

(j) if it is a fact that about a month previously, while in Madura jail, he was not treated as an asthmatic patient and was put to ragi grinding and if so, whether the Government will be pleased to enquire into the conduct of the Superintendent and Medical Officer concerned?

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The hon. Mr. C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar :—" Sir, I wish to answer the question seriatim—

(a) & (b) Attention of the Government has been drawn to it by the hon. Member (Mr. T. Adinarayana Chetti) who forwarded to me a copy of the judgment.

(c) On the facts as disclosed in the judgment and otherwise, he had jurisdiction.

(d) There was no question of allowing him to go and they did not play any part in this matter.

(e) Government have no actual information on the matter beyond what they gather from the judgment itself from which it is evident that notice was served on him on the 20th July 1923.

(f) Yes, it was apprehended that there was a danger to the public peace at Uttamapalaiyam having regard to the speeches of Mr. Varadarajulu Nayudu that he invited Japan to invade India and that in the cold weather it was necessary to have riots so that Europeans might notice the feeling there.

(g) Admission was public and both those speeches were taken in shorthand.

(h) Under the circumstances the Government do not propose to remit the unexpired portion of his sentence.

(i) & (j) Enquiries will be made."

## II

## COMMUNICATIONS TO THE COUNCIL.

(1)

The Secretary laid on the table* a copy of a 'note for the Excise Advisory Committee' prepared by the hon. the Minister for Excise.

(2)

The Secretary laid on the table† the proceedings of the sixth meeting of the Finance Committee for 1923–24, dated 3rd December 1923.

## III

## COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

The hon. the President :— " I have to inform the House that the following seven gentlemen were nominated for election as members of the Committee on Public Accounts :—

| | |
|---|---|
| The Raja of Ramnad. | Mr. R. Srinivasan. |
| Mr. S. Arpudaswami Udayar. | ,, C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar. |
| ,, B. Mahabala Hegde. | ,, Abbas Ali Khan. |
| ,, P. N. Marthandam Pillai. | |

As the number of candidates nominated is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, viz., seven, I hereby declare the abovementioned gentlemen to be duly elected under Regulation II (4) of the Regulations for holding of elections by means of Single Transferable Vote."

* Printed as Appendix A on pages 363-370 infra.
† Printed as Appendix B on pages 371-373 infra.